



An E-Update

Prepared by Organizational Results
Missouri Department of Transportation

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Research Forum Nets Large Number of Proposals

The March 18 research forum in St. Louis attracted around 50 representatives from public and private research organizations to discuss research needs in the areas of freight and intermodal development along with transportation funding, finance and economic development. MoDOT researchers were encouraged by having six universities and more than 10 private companies in attendance. The 30-day call for research proposals resulted in 22 submissions. Organizational Results staff will include the submissions in its annual project prioritization process in May.

Economic Impact Research Keys Public Support of Project

Transportation planners knew there might be difficulties in building local support for a proposed four-lane improvement to a rural stretch of U.S. Route 63. But thanks to a recent economic impact study, district staff was able to show the positive impact four-lane highways have on similar Missouri counties. District staff said the economic data helped sell the improvements to even the most critical opponents. Be convinced yourself by reading the full report. [Route 63 Economic Impact Report](#)

Citizens Support MoDOT's Choice of Transportation Solutions

Results from a recent survey show that most Missourians are very satisfied with both local projects and with MoDOT's overall efforts. Based upon their responses, these opinions are mostly based upon exposure to the local projects. Nearly 94 percent of the respondents were either "very" or "fairly" familiar with the project roadway. More than 73 percent of the respondents were regular users of the affected roadway (defined as using it at least once per week). The majority of respondents thought that the project made the roadway safer (94.6 percent), more convenient (90.8 percent), less congested (81.1 percent), easier to drive (92.9 percent), better marked (89.9 percent), and was the right transportation solution (93.9 percent). On a more general measure, 84 percent of the respondents stated that they were satisfied with MoDOT's efforts to provide a quality transportation system in Missouri. Results were virtually unchanged from the previous year's survey. Check out all the responses. [Right Transportation Solution Survey](#)

Library Project Earns Innovative Researcher Award

Dr. Tom Kochtanek, University of Missouri, and Transportation Librarian Danielle Pollock were awarded the first Innovative Researcher of the Year Award March 18 at the MoDOT Spring Research Forum in St Louis. The winning library development project provides rapid information acquisition to support policy and operations decision making in the department. MoDOT began the award this year to recognize implemented research that has provided significant and notable support to its mission, values and Tangible Results. See the happy recipients. [Research Award Photo](#)

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Ports Resources Identified for Economic Development

Transporting freight has economic importance on both a national and international scale and waterborne freight traffic is projected to grow nationwide. Missouri's centralized location and access to multiple modes of transportation effectively position the state for increased freight movements and growth on its waterways. To capture this growth, a research project was launched to inventory Missouri's existing waterway operations and infrastructure and determine how Missouri can improve its overall viability and set the stage to strengthen Missouri's role as a national freight center. Complete the flow of information by reading the full report or the project summary.

[Freight Development Report for Missouri Waterways](#)
[Waterways Project Summary](#)

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